

Anti-Ramsey multiplicities

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Abstract

The Ramsey multiplicity constant of a graph H is the minimum proportion of copies of H in the complete graph which are monochromatic under an edge-coloring of K_n as n goes to infinity. Graphs for which this minimum is asymptotically achieved by taking a random coloring are called *common*, and common graphs have been studied extensively, leading to the Burr-Rosta conjecture and Sidorenko's conjecture. Erdős and Sós asked what the maximum number of rainbow triangles is in a 3-coloring of the edge set of K_n , a rainbow version of the Ramsey multiplicity question. A graph H is called r -anti-common if the maximum proportion of rainbow copies of H in any r -coloring of $E(K_n)$ is asymptotically achieved by taking a random coloring. In this paper, we investigate anti-Ramsey multiplicity for several families of graphs. We determine classes of graphs which are either anti-common or not. Some of these classes follow the same behavior as the monochromatic case, but some of them do not. In particular the rainbow equivalent of Sidorenko's conjecture, that all bipartite graphs are anti-common, is false.

1 Introduction

All graphs that we consider will be finite and simple. If H is a subgraph of G , we write $H \subseteq G$ and we say G contains a *copy* of H . An r -edge-coloring of a graph G is a function with domain $E(G)$ and codomain a set of r colors, $\{1, \dots, r\}$. Given an edge coloring c of G , a subgraph H of G is said to be *monochromatic* if for every $e, f \in E(H)$ $c(e) = c(f)$. That is, a subgraph is monochromatic if all its edges are the same color (e.g., Figure 1).

Given a complete graph K_n and a subgraph H of K_n , it is an interesting question to determine how many monochromatic copies of H are we guaranteed to find in any r -edge-coloring of K_n . The maximum number we can guarantee is known as the Ramsey multiplicity. In particular, the *Ramsey multiplicity* $M_r(H; n)$ is the minimum over all r -edge-colorings of K_n of the number of monochromatic copies of H . We consider the Ramsey multiplicity of a graph H with m vertices relative to the number of copies of H in K_n via the ratio

$$C_r(H; n) = \frac{M_r(H; n)}{\binom{n}{m} \frac{m!}{|\text{Aut}(H)|}}.$$

Throughout the paper, m and e refers to the order and size of the subgraph, denoted here with H . n refers to the size of the large complete graph that contains the subgraph. The denominator is the number of copies of H in K_n where $\text{Aut}(H)$ is the set of automorphisms of H . Intuitively, this ratio can be thought of as the probability a randomly chosen copy of H in K_n is monochromatic. We can obtain an immediate bound on $C_r(H; n)$ by coloring each edge of K_n color i independently with probability $\frac{1}{r}$. Under this random coloring, any copy of H in K_n is monochromatic with probability $r^{1-e(H)}$. This gives an upper bound on $C_r(H; n)$ of $r^{1-e(H)}$. In [12], Jagger, Šťovíček, and Thomason show that $C_r(H; n)$ is nondecreasing in n and so since it is also bounded the limit

$$C_r(H) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} C_r(H; n),$$

exists and is known as the *Ramsey multiplicity constant* of H [8].

The earliest result in this area was by Goodman in 1959 who proved $C_2(K_3) = \frac{1}{4}$ [9]. In 1962, Erdős conjectured that $C_2(K_n) = 2^{1-\binom{n}{2}}$ for all cliques [6]. Burr and

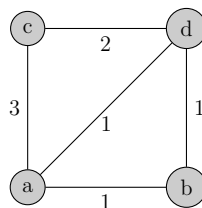


Figure 1: The vertices $\{a, b, d\}$ form a monochromatic K_3 in this 4-edge-coloring of this graph.

Rosta later conjectured that for all graphs H , $C_2(H) = 2^{1-e(H)}$ [4]. We call a graph *common* if it satisfies the Burr-Rosta conjecture. Sidorenko disproved the Burr-Rosta conjecture by showing that a triangle with a pendant edge is not common [15]. Thomason disproved the initial conjecture of Erdős by showing that for $p \geq 4$, K_p is not common [17]. Sidorenko conjectured instead that all bipartite graphs are common [14], this conjecture is well-known and is referred to as Sidorenko’s conjecture. Much work has been done on both the Burr-Rosta conjecture (see, e.g., [4, 9, 11, 12, 15, 16]) and on Sidorenko’s conjecture (c.f. [2, 5, 10, 13]). If we instead consider $r > 2$, H is called *r-common* if $C_r(H) = r^{1-e(H)}$. Jagger et al. showed that if a graph G is not *r-common*, then it is not $(r+1)$ -common [12]. In 2011, Cummings and Young proved that no graph containing K_3 is 3-common [1]. Cummings et al. determined $M_3(K; n)$ for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and, therefore, $C_3(K_3)$ [18]. There are many open questions which remain for $r > 2$.

We will consider a similar parameter to the Ramsey multiplicity constant by searching for rainbow subgraphs as opposed to monochromatic subgraphs. Given an edge coloring c of G , a subgraph H of G is said to be *rainbow* if for every pair of distinct edges $e, f \in E(H)$, $c(e) \neq c(f)$. In Figure 1, the edges 13 and 34 form a rainbow copy of P_2 . In this setting, a minimization problem is uninteresting since it is possible to color all edges the same color and hence contain no rainbow copy of H (assuming $e(H) > 1$). Instead, we ask what is the maximum number of rainbow copies of H we can find amongst all edge colorings of K_n . Let $rb_r(H; n)$ be the maximum over all r -edge-colorings of K_n of the number of rainbow copies of H and call this the *anti-Ramsey multiplicity* of H . In this paper, we will build the theory of the anti-Ramsey multiplicity constant and decide *r-anti-commonality* of various classes of graphs.

2 The anti-Ramsey multiplicity constant

Before we define the anti-Ramsey multiplicity constant, we will first prove that given a graph H , the maximum probability a copy of H is rainbow under a coloring of K_n is bounded and monotone as a function of n . As in the Ramsey case, we will consider the anti-Ramsey multiplicity of a graph H with m vertices relative to the number of copies of H in K_n via the ratio

$$rbC_r(H; n) = \frac{rb_r(H; n)}{\binom{n}{m} \frac{m!}{|\text{Aut}(H)|}}.$$

For the remainder of this section, fix a graph $H = (V, E)$ with $|V| = m$ and $e(H) = e$.

Proposition 2.1.

$$rbC_r(H; n) \geq \frac{\binom{r}{e} e!}{r^e}.$$

Proof. We will color the edges of K_n uniformly and independently at random from the set $\{1, \dots, r\}$. In particular, each edge is colored color i with probability $\frac{1}{r}$ for

$i = 1, \dots, r$. The number of possible rainbow edge assignments of a graph with e edges is $\binom{r}{e}e!$ and a given edge assignment occurs with probability $(\frac{1}{r})^e$. Thus the expected probability that a randomly selected copy of H in K_n is rainbow is given by $\frac{\binom{r}{e}e!}{r^e}$. Therefore there exists a coloring such that this probability is at least $\frac{\binom{r}{e}e!}{r^e}$ and since $\text{rb}C_r(C; n)$ is the maximum over all such probabilities, the inequality follows. \square

Proposition 2.2. *For a fixed H ,*

$$\text{rb}C_r(H; n)$$

is monotone nonincreasing in n .

Proof. We will prove that

$$\frac{\text{rb}_r(H; n)}{\text{rb}_r(H; n - 1)} \leq \frac{n}{n - m}$$

which is equivalent to the proposition. Consider an r -coloring of K_n that has exactly $\text{rb}(H; n)$ rainbow H . Every subgraph K_{n-1} contains at most $\text{rb}_r(H; n - 1)$ rainbow H . On the other hand, every H with m vertices is contained in exactly $n - m$ different K_{n-1} . Hence,

$$(n - m)\text{rb}_r(H; n) \leq n\text{rb}_r(H; n - 1)$$

which proves the desired result. \square

We are now ready to define the anti-Ramsey multiplicity constant.

Corollary 2.3. *The anti-Ramsey multiplicity constant, given by*

$$\text{rb}C_r(H) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \text{rb}C_r(H; n),$$

exists and is finite.

Proof. By Propositions 2.1 and 2.2, the sequence $\{\text{rb}C_r(H; n)\}_{n=m}^\infty$ is bounded and monotone. Hence by the Monotone Convergence Theorem, the limit exists and is finite. \square

Note that the anti-Ramsey multiplicity constant has the same lower bound as that of Proposition 2.1, motivating the following definition.

Definition 2.4. For $r \geq m$, we say that H is r -anti-common if

$$\text{rb}C_r(H) = \frac{\binom{r}{e}e!}{r^e}.$$

If H is r -anti-common for all $r \geq m$, H is called anti-common.

3 Anti-common graphs

In this section we will prove anti-commonality for matchings and disjoint unions of stars. We will state but not prove the number of automorphisms for each graph in question and for more details regarding automorphisms of graphs see [3]. Suppose $f(n)$ and $g(n)$ are two real-valued functions. We say

$$f(n) = O(g(n))$$

if and only if there exist positive constants C, N such that $|f(n)| \leq C|g(n)|$ for all $n > N$. We will sometimes abuse notation and use big-O notation in a string of inequalities. For example $f(n) \leq g(n) + O(n)$ means there exist C, N such that $f(n) \leq g(n) + Cn$ for all $n \geq N$.

Lemma 3.1. *$H = (V, E)$ with order m and size e . If*

$$rb_r(H; n) \leq \frac{n^m \binom{r}{e} e!}{|\text{Aut}(H)| r^e} + O(n^{m-1}),$$

then H is r -anti-common.

Proof. Assume that for n large enough we have $rb_r(H; n) \leq \frac{n^m \binom{r}{e} e!}{|\text{Aut}(H)| r^e} + O(n^{m-1})$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{rb_r(H; n)}{\binom{n}{m} \frac{m!}{|\text{Aut}(H)|}} &\leq \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{n^m \binom{r}{e} e!}{|\text{Aut}(H)| r^e} + O(n^{m-1})}{\binom{n}{m} \frac{m!}{|\text{Aut}(H)|}} \\ &= \frac{\binom{r}{e} e!}{r^e} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n^m + O(n^{m-1})}{\binom{n}{m} m!} \\ &= \frac{\binom{r}{e} e!}{r^e} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n^m + O(n^{m-1})}{n(n-1) \cdots (n-m+1)} \\ &= \frac{\binom{r}{e} e!}{r^e}. \end{aligned}$$

□

We will also use the following inequality, often referred to as Maclaurin’s inequality.

Fact 3.2. *Given positive integers $k \leq l$ and positive real numbers x_1, \dots, x_l ,*

$$\sum_{\{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_k\} \subseteq [l]} x_{i_1} x_{i_2} \cdots x_{i_k} \leq \binom{l}{k} \left(\frac{\sum_{i=1}^l x_i}{l} \right)^k.$$

The following lemma will be used in the proof of Theorem 3.4 which generalizes the result to disjoint unions of stars.

Lemma 3.3. *Stars are anti-common.*

Proof. Consider $S = K_{1,m-1}$ and note that

$$|\text{Aut}(S)| = (m - 1)!.$$

By Lemma 3.1, It suffices to prove that

$$\text{rb}_r(K_{1,m-1}; n) = \frac{\binom{r}{m-1}n^m}{r^{m-1}} + O(n^{m-1}).$$

Given a vertex v of K_n , let q_i be the number of edges of color i incident with v . Then the number of rainbow copies of S with center v is

$$\sum_{\{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_{m-1}\} \subseteq [r]} q_{i_1} q_{i_2} \cdots q_{i_{m-1}}.$$

Vertices of K_n have degree $n - 1$, so by Fact 3.2 we have

$$\sum_{\{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_{m-1}\} \subseteq [r]} q_{i_1} q_{i_2} \cdots q_{i_{m-1}} \leq \left(\frac{n - 1}{r}\right)^{m-1} \binom{r}{m - 1}.$$

Stars with centers v and v' are distinct if $v \neq v'$, therefore the total number of rainbow copies of S in K_n is at most

$$n \left(\frac{n - 1}{r}\right)^{m-1} \binom{r}{m - 1} = \frac{\binom{r}{m-1}n^m}{r^{m-1}} + O(n^{m-1}).$$

□

Theorem 3.4. *Disjoint unions of stars are anti-common.*

Proof. Fix positive integers $k \leq m$ and let $\mathcal{P}_k^{\geq 2}(m)$ denote the set of integer partitions of m into k parts with each part having size at least 2. For $P = \{m_1, \dots, m_k\} \in \mathcal{P}_k^{\geq 2}(m)$, let S_P be a disjoint union of k stars with components $S_{P,i} = K_{1,m_i-1}$ for $i = 1, \dots, k$. Let $m_{i_1} < \dots < m_{i_{j(P)}}$ be the $j(P)$ distinct sizes of the stars in S_P and let M_s be the number of stars in S_P of size m_{i_s} . Then defining $\gamma(P) = \prod_{i=1}^{j(P)} M_i!$, we have the number of automorphisms of S_P is given by

$$|\text{Aut}(S_P)| = \gamma(P) \prod_{i=1}^k (m_i - 1)!.$$

Given $P \in \mathcal{P}_k^{\geq 2}(m)$, define

$$\binom{m - k}{P - 1} = \binom{m - k}{m_1 - 1, \dots, m_k - 1}$$

then we want to show

$$\text{rb}_r(S_P; n) = \binom{m - k}{P - 1} \frac{\binom{r}{m-k} \binom{n}{m} m!}{\gamma(P) r^{m-k}} + O(n^{m-1}).$$

Claim 3.5.

$$\sum_{P \in \mathcal{P}_k(m)} \gamma(P) \text{rb}_r(S_P; n) \leq \sum_{P \in \mathcal{P}_k(m)} \binom{m-k}{P-1} \frac{\binom{n}{m} m! \binom{r}{m-k}}{r^{m-k}} + O(n^{m-1}).$$

Proof. Let $\mathcal{C}_k(n)$ denote the collection of sets of k vertices in K_n . Given $C \in \mathcal{C}_k(n)$, we will count the number of rainbow disjoint unions of k stars with exactly m vertices and with C as the centers of the stars. Let $q_i(C)$ denote the number of edges of color i incident to any vertex in C , except those edges between two vertices in C . Then the number of rainbow disjoint unions of k stars with m vertices and C as the centers is at most

$$\sum_{\{i_1, \dots, i_{m-k}\} \subseteq [r]} q_{i_1}(C) \cdots q_{i_{m-k}}(C). \tag{1}$$

Note that $\sum_{i=1}^r q_i(C) = k(n-1) - \binom{k}{2}$ and so by Fact 3.2,

$$\sum_{\{i_1, \dots, i_{m-k}\} \subseteq [r]} q_{i_1}(C) \cdots q_{i_{m-k}}(C) \leq \binom{r}{m-k} \left(\frac{k(n-1) - \binom{k}{2}}{r} \right)^{m-k}.$$

Consider the sum

$$\sum_{C \in \mathcal{C}_k(n)} \sum_{\{i_1, \dots, i_{m-k}\} \subseteq [r]} q_{i_1}(C) \cdots q_{i_{m-k}}(C).$$

Let S_P be defined as above, *i.e.* a disjoint union of k stars with components K_{1, m_i-1} , where $P = \{m_1, \dots, m_k\} \in \mathcal{P}_k^{\geq 2}(m)$. In the sum above, S_P will be counted $\gamma(P)$ times. Therefore,

$$\sum_{C \in \mathcal{C}_k(n)} \sum_{\{i_1, \dots, i_{m-k}\} \subseteq [r]} q_{i_1}(C) \cdots q_{i_{m-k}}(C) = \sum_{P \in \mathcal{P}_k(m)} \gamma(P) \text{rb}_r(S_P; n).$$

Since $|\mathcal{C}_k(n)| = \binom{n}{k} k!$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{P \in \mathcal{P}_k(m)} \gamma(P) \text{rb}_r(S_P; n) &\leq \binom{n}{k} k! \binom{r}{m-k} \left(\frac{k(n-1) - \binom{k}{2}}{r} \right)^{m-k} \\ &= \frac{\binom{r}{m-k} n^m}{r^{m-k}} k^{m-k} + O(n^{m-1}). \end{aligned}$$

It remains to show that

$$\frac{\binom{r}{m-k} n^m}{r^{m-k}} k^{m-k} + O(n^{m-1}) \leq \sum_{P \in \mathcal{P}_k(m)} \binom{m-k}{P-1} \frac{\binom{n}{m} m! \binom{r}{m-k}}{r^{m-k}} + O(n^{m-1})$$

which holds with equality because $k^{m-k} = \sum_{P \in \mathcal{P}_k(m)} \binom{m-k}{P-1}$ by the multinomial theorem. □

By Proposition 2.1, we have for all $P = \{m_1, \dots, m_k\} \in \mathcal{P}_k^{\geq 2}(m)$,

$$\gamma(P)\text{rb}_r(S_P; n) \geq \frac{(m - k)! \binom{r}{m-k} \binom{n}{m} m!}{\prod_{i=1}^k (m_i - 1)! r^{m-k}} + O(n^{m-1}) \tag{2}$$

$$= \binom{m - k}{P - 1} \frac{\binom{r}{m-k} \binom{n}{m} m!}{r^{m-k}} + O(n^{m-1}). \tag{3}$$

Therefore, Claim 3.5 and the inequality (3) above implies for each $P \in \mathcal{P}_k^{\geq 2}(m)$,

$$\text{rb}_r(S_P; n) = \binom{m - k}{P - 1} \frac{\binom{r}{m-k} \binom{n}{m} m!}{\gamma(P)r^{m-k}} + O(n^{m-1}).$$

□

4 Graphs which are not anti-common

Not all graphs are r -anti-common for all r , and here we will prove in particular that complete graphs and K_4 without an edge are not anti-common. We will also give sufficient conditions, based on the number of edges, for a graph to not be anti-common.

4.1 Specific graphs which are not anti-common

In order to show that a graph is not anti-common for some r , we will construct a coloring with more rainbow subgraphs than that guaranteed in Proposition 2.1. Our arguments will start with a fixed coloring of some K_m for m small and we will use an iterated blow-up argument to construct a coloring of a larger K_n .

Definition 4.1. An *iterated blow-up* is an inductive coloring of K_n , where the edges are colored as follows. Pick $m \leq n$ and fix a coloring of K_m with labeled vertices v_1, \dots, v_m . Divide the vertices of K_n into m disjoint sets of size $\lfloor \frac{n}{m} \rfloor$ and $\lceil \frac{n}{m} \rceil$, namely V_1, \dots, V_m . For $u_i \in V_i$ and $u_j \in V_j$, color the edge $u_i u_j$ the same color as the edge $v_i v_j$ in the coloring of K_m . Repeat this process with each V_i until there are no vertices left to be split into m disjoint sets. We call this an iterated blow-up of the initial coloring of K_m with n vertices.

Proposition 4.2. *The graph with 4 vertices and 5 edges, namely K_4^- , is not 5-anti-common.*

Proof. Note that the 5-edge-coloring of K_5 in Figure 2 contains 10 rainbow copies of K_4^- . Given $n = 5^k$ for k a positive integer, let $F(n)$ be the number of rainbow copies of K_4^- contained in an iterated blow-up of the coloring in Figure 2 on n vertices.

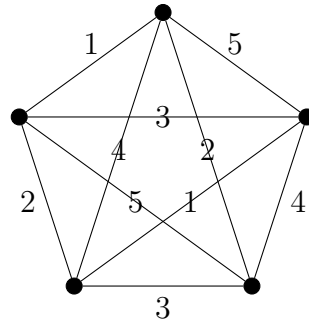


Figure 2: A 5-edge-coloring of K_5 with 10 rainbow copies of K_4^- .

Within each of the 5 parts, there are $5F\left(\frac{n}{5}\right)$ rainbow copies of K_4^- and there are $10\left(\frac{n}{5}\right)^4$ with one vertex in each part. Therefore

$$F(n) \geq 5F\left(\frac{n}{5}\right) + 10\left(\frac{n}{5}\right)^4$$

and solving this recurrence gives

$$F(n) \geq \frac{n^4}{62} + O(n^3).$$

There are 4 automorphisms of K_4^- , hence

$$\begin{aligned} \text{rb}_r(K_4^-; n) &\geq \frac{n^4}{62} + O(n^3) \\ &> \frac{6n^4}{625} + O(n^3) \\ &= \frac{\binom{n}{4}4!\binom{5}{5}5!}{4 \cdot 5^5} + O(n^3). \end{aligned}$$

□

In [7], it was shown that K_3 is not 3-anti-common. We will now prove for $a \geq 4$, K_a is not $\binom{a}{2}$ -anti-common.

Theorem 4.3. *The complete graph K_a is not $\binom{a}{2}$ -anti-common for $a \geq 4$.*

Proof. Consider a rainbow K_a , i.e. let c be an $\binom{a}{2}$ -edge-coloring of K_a such that each edge has a different color. Given $n = a^k$ for k a positive integer, let $F(n)$ denote the number of rainbow copies of K_a contained in an iterated blow-up of the coloring c on n vertices. There are $aF\left(\frac{n}{a}\right)$ rainbow copies of K_a within each of the a parts, and there are $\left(\frac{n}{a}\right)^a$ rainbow copies of K_a with exactly one vertex from each part. Therefore

$$F(n) \geq aF\left(\frac{n}{a}\right) + \left(\frac{n}{a}\right)^a$$

and solving this recurrence gives

$$F(n) \geq \frac{n^a}{a^a - a} + O(n^{a-1}).$$

Therefore, since the number of automorphisms of K_a is $a!$, in order to show

$$\frac{n^a}{a^a - a} + O(n^{a-1}) > \frac{\binom{n}{a} \binom{a}{2}!}{\binom{a}{2} \binom{a}{2}}$$

we will prove

$$\frac{a!}{a^a - a} > \frac{\binom{a}{2}!}{\binom{a}{2} \binom{a}{2}}. \tag{4}$$

We will use the following bound on the factorial function

$$\binom{a}{2}! \leq e \binom{a}{2} \left(\frac{\binom{a}{2}}{e} \right)^{\binom{a}{2}}$$

where e is the base of the natural logarithm. From this we have

$$\frac{\binom{a}{2}!}{\binom{a}{2} \binom{a}{2}} \leq \frac{\binom{a}{2}}{e^{\binom{a}{2}-1}}$$

and also using the inequality from (4), $\frac{a!}{a^a - a} \geq \frac{1}{e^{a-1}}$ and therefore it suffices to show

$$\frac{\binom{a}{2}}{e^{\binom{a}{2}-1}} < \frac{1}{e^{a-1}}.$$

One can check that this inequality holds for $a \geq 4$ which concludes the proof. □

4.2 Sufficient conditions for not anti-commonality

In what follows \log represents the natural logarithm. We will also be using both sides of Stirling’s approximation given below.

Theorem 4.4 (Stirling’s Approximation).

$$\sqrt{2\pi n} \left(\frac{n}{e}\right)^n \leq n! \leq \sqrt{2\pi n} \left(\frac{n}{e}\right)^n e^{\frac{1}{12n}}.$$

Theorem 4.5. *Suppose H is a graph with m vertices and e edges and let c be a constant such that $2\pi m(1 - c) > 1$ and*

$$c + (1 - c) \log(1 - c) \geq \frac{2}{m - 1} + \frac{1}{\binom{m}{2}^{12}}.$$

If $e \geq c \binom{m}{2}$, then H is not $\binom{m}{2}$ -anti-common.

Proof. Let H be a graph which satisfies the hypothesis above and consider a rainbow coloring of H . An iterated blow-up of this coloring with n vertices, similarly to the proof of Theorem 4.3, yields that the number of rainbow copies of H in K_n is at least

$$\frac{n^m m!}{m^m} + O(n^{m-1}).$$

From the relations between c and m we have

$$c \binom{m}{2} - \frac{1}{\binom{m}{2} 12} + (1 - c) \binom{m}{2} \log(1 - c) - m \geq 0$$

and

$$\exp \left(c \binom{m}{2} - \frac{1}{\binom{m}{2} 12} - m \right) (1 - c)^{\binom{m}{2}(1-c)} \geq 1.$$

Then since $2\pi m(1 - c) > 1$ we have

$$\sqrt{2\pi m(1 - c)} \exp \left(c \binom{m}{2} - \frac{1}{\binom{m}{2} 12} - m \right) (1 - c)^{\binom{m}{2}(1-c)} > 1$$

which is equivalent to

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\sqrt{2\pi m}}{e^m} &> \frac{\exp \left(\frac{1}{\binom{m}{2} 12} \right)}{\sqrt{1 - c} \exp \left(c \binom{m}{2} \right) (1 - c)^{\binom{m}{2}(1-c)}} \\ &= \frac{\exp \left(\frac{1}{\binom{m}{2} 12} \right) \left(\binom{m}{2} e^{-1} \right)^{\binom{m}{2}}}{\binom{m}{2} c^{\binom{m}{2}} \left(\binom{m}{2} (1 - c) e^{-1} \right)^{\binom{m}{2}(1-c)} \sqrt{1 - c}} \\ &\geq \frac{\binom{m}{2}!}{\binom{m}{2} c^{\binom{m}{2}} \left(\binom{m}{2} - c \binom{m}{2} \right)! \sqrt{1 - c}} \\ &= \frac{\binom{\binom{m}{2}}{c \binom{m}{2}} \left(c \binom{m}{2} \right)!}{\binom{m}{2} c^{\binom{m}{2}}} \\ &\geq \frac{\binom{\binom{m}{2}}{e} e!}{\binom{m}{2} e}. \end{aligned}$$

Using Stirling’s approximation, we have

$$\frac{\sqrt{2\pi m}}{e^m} < \frac{\sqrt{2\pi m}}{e^m} \leq \frac{m!}{m^m}.$$

and therefore

$$\frac{n^m m!}{m^m} + O(n^{m-1}) > \frac{n^m \binom{m}{2} e!}{\binom{m}{2}^e} + O(n^{m-1}).$$

□

Corollary 4.6. *Let H be a graph on m vertices and e edges such that*

$$e > m\sqrt{m-1}.$$

Then for $m \geq 6$, H is not $\binom{m}{2}$ -anti-common.

Proof. Let H be a graph that satisfies the hypothesis and set $c = \frac{2}{\sqrt{m-1}}$. Since $2\pi m(1-c) > 1$ for $m \geq 6$, we can apply Proposition 4.5 and thus it suffices to show

$$c + (1-c) \log(1-c) \geq \frac{2}{m-1} + \frac{1}{\binom{m}{2}^2 12}.$$

For $m \geq 6$ we also have $|c| < 1$, so we can expand the log function as follows

$$\begin{aligned} c + (1-c) \log(1-c) &= c + (1-c) \left(-c - \frac{c^2}{2} - \frac{c^3}{3} - \dots \right) \\ &= \sum_{i=2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{i(i-1)} c^i \\ &= \frac{2}{m-1} + \frac{4}{3(m-1)^{3/2}} + \sum_{i=4}^{\infty} \frac{1}{i(i-1)} \left(\frac{2}{\sqrt{m-1}} \right)^i \\ &> \frac{2}{m-1} + \frac{1}{\binom{m}{2}^2 12}. \end{aligned}$$

□

Corollary 4.6 shows that for n large enough, any bipartite graph of positive density is not anticommon. In particular, a random bipartite graph will satisfy the hypotheses of Corollary 4.6 with probability tending to 1, giving the following corollary which is in sharp contrast to Sidorenko’s conjecture.

Corollary 4.7. *Almost all bipartite graphs are not anti-common.*

If Sidorenko’s conjecture is true, this is very different behavior from the monochromatic situation.

5 Future directions

As in the Ramsey case, we wish to establish an implication between a graph being r -anti-common and $(r + 1)$ -anti-common. Through our investigation of this problem, we have shown the following.

Proposition 5.1. *Let H be a graph with e edges, then*

$$rb_{r+1}(H; n) \geq rb_r(H; n) \geq \left(\frac{(r + e)(r + 1 - e)}{r(r + 1)} \right) rb_{r+1}(H; n).$$

Proof. Since the set of $(r + 1)$ -edge-colorings contains the set of r -edge-colorings, the left inequality follows immediately. Now consider an $(r + 1)$ -edge-coloring of K_n such that the number of rainbow copies of H is exactly $rb_{r+1}(H; n)$. Randomly choose a color from $[r + 1]$ and call it r' . For all edges colored r' , recolor them randomly from the set of colors $[r + 1] \setminus \{r'\}$. In the initial coloring, the expected number of rainbow copies of H with one edge colored r' is

$$\frac{rb(G, n, r + 1)e}{r + 1}.$$

With probability $\frac{r-e+1}{r}$, each of these rainbow subgraphs will remain rainbow in the new coloring. Therefore the expected number of rainbow copies of H in the new coloring is

$$\begin{aligned} \left(rb_{r+1}(H; n) - \frac{rb_{r+1}(H; n)e}{r + 1} \right) + \frac{rb_{r+1}(H; n)e(r - e + 1)}{r(r + 1)} \\ = \left(\frac{(r + e)(r + 1 - e)}{r(r + 1)} \right) rb_{r+1}(H; n). \end{aligned}$$

This implies that there exists such a coloring of K_n with r colors and hence

$$\left(\frac{(r + e)(r + 1 - e)}{r(r + 1)} \right) rb_{r+1}(H; n) \leq rb_r(H; n).$$

□

This inequality leads us to believe that the implication below is in fact true.

Conjecture 5.2. *If H is not r -anti-common, then H is not $(r + 1)$ -anti-common.*

There are also many other classes of graphs whose anti-commonality have yet to be studied. Preliminary results on cycles lead us to believe that for $k \geq 3$, cycles of length k are not k -anti-common. One can show using the iterated blow-up method in Section 4 that C_4 is not 4-anti-common and that C_5 is not 5-anti-common. It is also conjectured that P_4 is 3-anti common—flag algebra computations (on 5 vertex flags) give an upper bound of approximately 0.22222241, nearly matching the lower bound of $2/9$.

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